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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
09/589,579	06/07/2000	Hugh Frederick Collins	THOM-0009	1127	
7590 02/17/2004			EXAM	EXAMINER	
Woodcock Washburn Kurtz			TOOMER,	TOOMER, CEPHIA D	
MacKiewicz & Norris LLP			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
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Philadelphia, PA 19103			DATE MAILED: 02/17/200	DATE MAILED: 02/17/2004	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Application No. Applicant(s) Office Action Summary				
Examiner	·	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
Cephia D. Toomer 1714	Office Action Summary	-		
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address — Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Extension of time may be available under the provisions of 3 CPR 1.13(a), in no event however, may a reply be limity filed alse SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. The provision of the main of the provision of the provision of the communication of the communication of the provision of the prov	Office Action Summary			
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Application/Control Number: 09/589,579

Art Unit: 1714

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after allowance or after an Office action under *Ex Parte Quayle*, 25 USPQ 74, 453 O.G. 213 (Comm'r Pat. 1935). Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, prosecution in this application has been reopened pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on August 29, 2003 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
 - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 3. Claims 14 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gonzalez (US 5,141,524) in view of Yang (US 5,688,295).

Gonzalez teaches a catalytic clean combustion promoter composition for liquid fuels used in internal combustion engines (see abstract). The composition comprises from 1 to 25 percent by volume xylene, from 1-45% by volume of a ketone, from 1=30% by volume of isopropyl alcohol and from 1-60 % kerosene or a paraffin solvent (see col.

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2, lines 1-22 and claim 1). Gonzalez teaches the limitations of the claims other than the differences that are discussed below.

In the first aspect, Gonzalez differs from the claims in that he does not specifically teach that the ketone is acetone. However, Yang teaches this difference.

Yang teaches a gasoline additive for internal combustion engines wherein the additive enhances motor power, improves combustion and reduces pollutants. The additive contains a ketone selected from the group consisting of acetone, butanone and cyclohexanone (see abstract; col. 1, lines 4-7; col. 2, lines 13-17 and 30-38).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have replaced butanone, as taught by Gonzalez, with acetone because Yang teaches that these ketones are art recognized equivalents as solvents for gasoline additives that improve combustion and reduce pollution output.

In the second aspect, Gonzalez differs from the claims in that he teaches the proportions as volume percent whereas Applicant is claiming weight percentages.

However, it is the examiner's position that the proportions overlap or are close enough that one skilled in the art would expect the compositions to have the same properties.

4. Claims 16-17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The prior art fails to teach the claimed elemental metals.

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5. Claims 21, 24-26 and 29 are allowable because the prior art fails to teach or suggest the method of rejuvenating or cleaning a catalyst in a catalytic converter without the removal of the catalyst from the vehicle.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cephia D. Toomer whose telephone number is 571-272-1126. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vasu Jagannathan can be reached on 571-272-1119. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0661.

ephia D. Toomer

Primary Examiner

Art Unit 1714